EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

OCMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Who is Mr. McGinnis !

From the Tribung. It is a considerable time since we asked this question, briefly but explicitly, and although our carculation is also considerable, we do not yet know who is the illustriously obscure man appointed to reside as our Minister at Stockholm. Mr. McGinnis himself might write, but he don't; some of Mr. McGinnis' friends might write, but they don't. To add to the botheration, we shall get no information when the nomination of Mr. McGinnis is debated in the Senate. This is trifling with historical facts, and threatens to add another to the catalogue, slready too long, of historic doubts and problems. It is all well enough to leave the matblems. It is all well enough to leave the mat-ter unsettled now, but fancy the perplexitles of writers A. D. 1967; the essays that will be written about the shadowy Joffn; the follos that may be printed to prove that it was not this nor that John, but some other John; the ponderous arguments to demonstrate that there never was any McGinnis; a repeti-George Penne, to which in this day historical students have been treated; communications to students have been treated; communications to the Iribune in the next age asking our suc-cessors who Mr. John McGinnis was; searches by snuffy antiquaries of the journals of the Senate; deputations of still snuffler antiquaries going over to Stockholm to investigate; fights between irascible antiquaries; a long correspondence, perhaps in Latin, between friendly intiquaries; elaborate articles in the quarterly reviews of the period upon the subject; the ries that Mr. McGinnis was a myth; other theo-ries that he was a hero who did wonderful things which have been forgotten; Betsey Prigg's asserting that "there never wan't no sich person;" and Sairy Gamp's vindicating the existence of this diplomatic Mrs. Harris—and all because nobody will write now to let us know who Mr. McGinnis really is!

know who Mr. McGinnis realiy is:
This will never do. There are perplexities
enough in history already. Think of the man
in the iron mask! Think of the Rev. Eleazer
Williams, a Bourbon as doubtful as most of the
fluid of that name! Think of the man who
read the mannikins! Think of the man who
sorely smote Mr. William Patterson! Think of Mr. Patterson himself, whose history is all nebulous, and of whom nothing is known except that comparatively nothing is known of him! And here comes Mr. John McGinnis, as dublous as a modern Dauphin, as impersonal as one of Ossian's ghosts, as shadowy as the author of Junius-and must stat nominis umbra con-tinue to be said of him? Not if we can help it! In such a perplexity, any theory is better than no theory; and one has been suggested

to us which we feel it to be our duty to give.
It has been hinted that Mr. McGinnis is merely Mr. Doolittle attempting to fly from the wrath of the people under an assumed name. There are reasons for this, when we consider how many motives there are which would naturally induce any man of modesty in Mr. Doolittle's situation to expatriate himself; but, on the other hand, Mr. Doolittle, so far as our ervation of him has enabled us to judge, not what may be called a man of modesty That he is uncommonly angry and somewhat sore about the head, we can easily believe; but he probably considers himself to be an ex-tremely injured individual, worthy of a more potent and profitable plaster than the embassy to such a cold court as that of Stockholm. He is sufficiently out in the cold already, without going to a country where, so to speak, the heart of the thermometer is always in its heels. we cannot say that we believe that Mr. McGin-

nis is Mr. Doolittle.
There is another theory, which we consider to be about as good in its way as poor Miss Bacon's notions of Shakespeare's plays. This asserts the identity of the John Jones of Mr. Tyler's admistration and the John McGinnis of Mr. Johnson's. ohn Jones is so common a name-in fact, so near no name at all—that we suppose a man would have a right to change it without application to the authorities. Of Mr. John Jones we know something. He wrote; and distinguished himself by writing the very worst edi-Of Mr. John Jones torial articles which have been printed since the invention of newspapers—they were, in fact, so extremely bad that we have seen nothing half so good since. There was none of your tame mediocrity, hateful to gods and men, about them—they were worthy, in fact, of the remarkable man to whose defense they were dedicated.

Mr. Tyler vetoed right and left, and John Jones stood by him-Mr. Johnson vetoes right and left, and John McGinnis stands by him. But here the parallel becomes confused. Mr. Tyler kept John Jones by him to the last; Mr. Johnson sends Mr. John McGiunis into a kind of honorable baunishment. This argues, we or honorable bandshment. This argues, we are willing to admit, an encouraging sagacity on the part of Mr. Johnson; because we hold that the sooner he gets rid of all his friends the more comfortable as a man, and the more profitable as a public servant, he will be. But do not see that we help the matter at all by writing about it. Dr. a muddle we began, and in a muddle we are likely to end. Wherefore we resolutely knye off, only once more asking -we must P.sk, whatever may be the conse-quences-who is Mr. John McGinnis?

The President and the Democracy. From the Times.

We cannot congratulate President Johnson upon his imitation of the Jacksoman example. The electric force of the old toast, "The Union: it must and shall be preserved," is not found in the sentiment offered by the President on Tuesday evening. One touched the national heart, and gave expression to the patriotism that animated it. The other reminds us of a partisan quarrel, with the Executive and the Democratic party arrayed in hostifity to Congress and the people at its back. Jackson affirmed his own purpose and the purpose of the country. Johnson un wisely—because gratuitously—renews his attack upon the policy of Congress, and descends from the dignity of President to the level of a partisan chief. The body he assails has not —he tells us—"the constitutional power to degrade the people of any State by reducing them to the condition of mere territorial dependen-cies upon the Federal head." What the constitu ional power of Congress may be is for the Supreme Court alone to decide. And the President hurts nobody so much as himself when he undertakes to decry the authority of Congress on a hypothesis which has not yet presented itself.

It is the habit of the Democracy to impute to It is the habit of the Democracy to impute to Congress an Intention to degrade the Southern people by reducing their States to territories. But the President knows that nothing of the kind has been enacted, nor even approved by either House. The territorial policy, so-called, has thus far not been acted upon in caucus or in the Capitol. The Constitutional amendment is the only formal embodiment of the policy denounced by the President, and certainly that measure does not reduce the Southern States to the condition of mere territorial dependencies." Other measures may become necessary if the amendment fail, and it were idle to calculate in advance whether the territorial theory will or will not enter into them. The country deals with the facts that exist, and the President ought not to go beyond them. For the North Carolina bill of Mr. Stevens is as moderate as the amendment, and is as far removed from the territorializing doctrine in its principle or in its

form of operation.

Other considerations should also have restrained the President in the drafting of his "sentiment." He arraigns the action of Conform of operation. gress dogmatically as unconstitutional. He undertakes to define authoritatively what Congress may or may not do in reference to the restoration or reconstruction of the South. Has

it not occurred to him that his own title to dictate the terms under which the present organizations at the South were formed is at, least as open to criticism as anything the law-making branch of the Government has done or may do If it be unconstitutional to legislate adversely to his views, may be not have acted somewhat unconstitutionally when he defined the conditions that should regulate the restoration of the Robel States to the Union? There is room for a Rebel States to the Union? There is room for a wide difference of opinion on all these points. and though the President may honestly claim credit for the purposes that actuated him in the earlier stages of the business of restoration, he should have learned ere now the folly of needlessly calling in question—either the motives or the fendencies of a policy which the party that made him Vice-President—has stamped with his

There have been changes, of course, all round the circle; but we appuehend there has been no change in the position or aims of the Republican party at all comparable with the change in the President's surroundings, as at this 8th of January banquet. Mr. Thomas B. Florence figured as a dispenser of favors on the occasion; Mr. Rogers, of New Jersey, Mr. Niblack, of Indiana, and Mr. Saulsbury, of Delaware, were notable examples of the gathering that cheered Mr. Johnson's arraignment of Congress. Some of these persons were of the opinion that the war to put down the Rebellion was throughout outrageously unconstitutional, and nine-tenths of the crowd were more or less hostile to the whole course of the Government during the war. If the applause of these, and such as these, affords Mr. Johnson comfort and consolation in the midst of the difficulties that surround him, by all means let him enjoy it. But he must not suppose that an indictment preferred against Congress, with the indorsation of malignant Copperheads, will shake the faith of the loyal people of the land in the patriotism or wisdem of the policy established by their Representatives.

The Movements of the Bourbon Democracy-The Contest of 1868. From the Herald.

The Democracy in various places have been celebrating the anniversary of General Jackson's victory of New Orleans-a victory to which the party is indebted for its successful debut under Old Hickory. With his retirement from the stage, however, began the decline and fall of their empire, and now from a succession of crushing defeats, beginning in 1860, they are in the condition of a routed and shattered army, without a leader and without any definite plan of offensive or defensive operations. In this condition, let us see what is the drift of these

stir of January celebrations.

We turn first to the banquet at Washington, at which old Mr. Blair, the father of the irrepressible Blair family, was the presiding genius. The general proceedings of this meeting were those of a mutual admiration society; but there was at least one character in it and one proposition submitted worthy of special attention. We refer to President Johnson, who was among the invited guests, and to his toast-'No State of its own will has a right under the Con-stitution to renounce its place in or withdraw from the Union; nor has the Congress of the United States the constitutional power to degrade the people of any State by reducing them to the condition of mere territorial dependencies upon the Federal head. The one is a disruption and dissolution of the Government; the other is consolidation and the exercise of despotic power." How far this despotic power was provisionally exercised by President Johnson over the Rebel States in the absence of Congress, is a question from which this toast might be answered. It will suffice, however, that what he assumed the responsibility in doing, Congress has the right to do-tha is, the right to reconstruct the States rescued from the Rebeltion from the beginning and upon the terms justified by the grand issues of the war. The President's toast is somewhat Does it apply to the pending Constitu-mendment? We do not know, and yet cloudy. Does it app tional Amendment? it was the nearest thing to a party platform that was offered at this Democratic banquet.

On the same day the Democracy of Co cut had a grand mass convention at New Haven, at which a long string of rattling resolutions was adopted, strongly seasoned with the old Democratic leaven of State rights, glorifying the Supreme Court of the United States and the President, denouncing Congress, and urging a ational Democratic C There is nothing in all this worthy of special remark, except the recognized necessity of a National Convention to get the party on its legs again. But among the speeches on the occa-sion was a very ridiculous, incendiary harangue from the Hon. James Brooks, of New York, threatening a general insurrection of the Democracy if Congress shall attempt to impeach the President and deprive him of his office. Against President and deprive him of his office. Against all such idle vaporings from any quarter the great Union party of the late war stand as the bulwark of law and order, and, after the fiery trials through which they have passed, they are not to be frightened by the populus of small-potato politicians. The Union army of the war—a million of men—has been mustered our of service; but it still exists, and is a unit upon the idea that the issues decided by the war shall be written in the book of Southern restoration and in the Constitution as security for

So much, then, for this Connecticut Demo-cratic Convention. Brooks has spoiled it. Of the same State rights staple as the Connecticut resolutions were those of the glorious 8th of resolutions were those of the glorious 8th of the Obio Democracy at Columbus, including a recommendation for a national convention. But there is sometaing of the Vallandigham virus in the Ohio resolution referring to the radical majority "of the so-called Congress" at Washington. What does this mean but that thus "so-called Congress" is not a Congress; that it is an illegal body; that its acts and those of each preceding Congress, back to the secession of the Southern delegations of 1861, are null and yold and go for nothing-national debt, currency, bonds, abolition of slavery, and every-

From all these foreshadowings, what is to be the Democratic programme for 1868? We have no sign indicating any change from the Chicago platform-no abandonment of those old State rights notions which went down with the Rebel-lion. It would really seem as if, against Con-gress, under cover of the administration and the Supreme Court, the Democratic Bourbon leaders expect to work up such a state of political confusion and delay in reconstruction as will eventually result in bringing the outside Southern States and the old defiant Southern oligarchy back again into Congress as they were, with even the institution of negro slavery practically revived and in full blast. Against the pian of operations thus suggested the true course of Congress and the Republican party is very plain. It is to push through the pending Con-stitutional amendment in the loyal States, hold-ing to it as the test of Southern restoration; it is to make such needful revisions in our tariff, internal revenue and currency loans as the condition of the country demands, and leave the interpretation of the Constitution, as to the powers of Congress, the President, and the Supreme Court, to the great Union party of the war in the Presidential election of 1868.

Upon this ground, discarding the dangerous counsels of all such violent Jacobins as Wendell Phillips, General Ben Butler, Ashley, of Ohio, and Wilson, of Iowa, the Republican party, adhering to the general issues upon which the Thirty-ninth Congress was elected, and upon which the Fortieth Congress has been secured, can secure the Forty-first with the next President. And why? Simply because the consolidated people of the sll-powerful North are fixed in this resolution—that the late war shall not turn out a failure.

The Articles of Impeachment. From the World.

The articles of impeachment of President Johnson, of which Mr. Ashley was delivered in the House of Representatives on Monday, look well on paper; but we fail to see that they would not have applied with greater force to the late lamented Lincoln, whose honesty few have ever disputed. Examine them seriatim:— 1. He (Andrew Johnson) has corruptly used the appointing power,

President Lincoln, if we recellect aright, upon his accession to office removed every honest official in the country who did not agree with him in politics, and it is generally believed that the head of an important bureau at Washington was given his position shortly after Washington was given his position shortly after presenting the President with a silver tea service. It is also believed that he appointed a person to the office of Chief Justice in order to dispose of him as a rival for the succeeding Presidency, and to secure in the Supreme Court a political element of a partisan stamp.

2. He (Andrew Johnson) has corruptly disposed of public property of the United States.

There have been reports that, during Mr. Lincoin's occupancy of the White House, a number of articles of plate and furniture mysteriously disappeared, which reports Mr. Thaddens Stevens gave rubble utters as Mr. Thaddens Stevens gave rubble utters as Mr. ous Stevens gave public utterance to in the House of Representatives, and more than inti-mated that the said reports had substantial

8. He (Andrew Johnson) has corruptly interfered in elections, and committed acts, and conspired with others to commit acts, which, in contemplation of the Constitution, are high crimes and misde-

During President Lincoln's term of office, it was generally understood that elections were interfered with by the direct connivance, if not by the direction, of the administration. It is a matter of history that soldiers were thrown into Maryland pending an election, who prevented duly qualified citizens from voting for Demooratic candidates, thereby securing the election of Republican caudidates. It is, further, a matter of history that at the election of President in 1864, soldiers belonging to the army of which Abraham Lincoin was the Commander-in-Chief not only voted where they had no legal residence, but voted again and again on election day, e. g., at Indianspolts, Indiana. It is, still further, duly recorded that, by the order as well as by the consent of President Lincoln, nowspapers were suppressed, and citizens of the United States were arrested without warrant, condemned without trial, and imprisoned without being sentenced; which deeds, "in contemplation of the Constitution, are high crimes and

nisdemeanors." To make the point complete, it is only necessary to add that, had a member of the House of Representatives proposed to impeach the President during Mr. Lincoln's administration on such slight pretexts as those upon which Mr. Ashley has founded his proposed articles of impeachment of President Johnson, he would have been hurried off to the Old Capitol Prison within twelve hours afterwards, if not sent out of the

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